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General Assembly

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Sixty-third session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 105 (a)
Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Note by the Secretary-General

1. As indicated in document A/63/101, the General Assembly will be required to appoint, at its current session, five persons to fill the vacancies that will occur in the membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2009.

2. The following persons have been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment:

Aïcha Afifi (Morocco)

Renata Archini (Italy)

Vladimir Alekseevitch Iosifov (Russian Federation)

Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina)

Susan M. McLurg (United States of America)

Alexander Petriashvili (Georgia)

3. The candidates' curricula vitae follow (see annex).

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Annex

Curricula vitae of candidates

[Original: English]

Aïcha Afifi (Morocco)

Executive summary

Mrs. Aïcha Afifi, Minister Plenipotentiary, is a senior diplomat who has served as a highly ranked public servant in many ministries in Morocco for many years. She has extensive professional and academic experience in Morocco and the United States, including 34 years in public administration, management, diplomacy, research, feasibility studies, project management, teaching, international development and gender issues. She has participated in many international conferences, summits and special sessions of the United Nations General Assembly and is fluent in French, Arabic and English, plus other dialects.

Educational background

Mrs. Afifi was educated in both Morocco and the United States. She holds several degrees in law, management, economics, finance and politics.

United States, 1987-1995
The American/and the Catholic Universities

Doctorate in management/economics
Certificate on international development

Morocco, 1970-1984
The Higher Institute of Management and Administration of Enterprises, Casablanca

Master of Business Administration
Higher certificate of Management

The National School of Public Administration, Rabat

Bachelors of Art in Public Finance and Government Contracting

The University Mohammed V Rabat

Higher Diploma in Law

Professional experience

January 2005-present: Minister Plenipotentiary at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco

September 2005-present: Deputy Chief of Mission

Represented the Ambassador in many official events acting as chargé d'affaires; responsible for managing administrative, budgetary, and political issues of the Embassy

Reorganized and coordinated all the Embassy's activities

Created a task force among the Embassy's diplomats

Supervised and monitored implementation of the Embassy's policy plan

Organized a briefing on Moroccan reforms and achievements

Organized seminars and conferences in partnership with universities

Participated in the preparation and organization of two nationwide conventions held in Washington, D.C. by the Moroccan community (June 2006-July 2007), with a goal of creating a network of Moroccan-Americans living in the United States

Co-founded a Moroccan-American women's organization in Washington, D.C.

Coordinated and supervised all events organized with other entities (including think tanks, NGOs, universities)

January 2005-September 2005: Minister Counsellor in charge of political affairs

Dealt with issues of interest common to Morocco and the United States

Promoted the Moroccan democratic reforms within the Congress and human rights NGOs

Represented Morocco in many events held in Washington, D.C. and other States

October 1998-August 2004: Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations

Mrs. Afifi, Minister Plenipotentiary, carried out several responsibilities and held different positions within the Main Committees of the United Nations General Assembly as well as within the regional groups.

January 2003-January 2004: Chair of the Group of 77 and China — Fifth Committee

Planned and organized the Group of 77 and China work

Coordinated the Group of 77 countries' positions in all common topics

Created and supervised working groups in charge of studying and analysing the budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Prepared statements made on behalf of the Group of 77 before the Fifth Committee

Coordinated the Group of 77 negotiations

Represented the Group of 77 negotiating on many issues on behalf of the groups with the most important contributors to the United Nations budget

United Nations biennial budget 2004-2005

Reform of the budget planning cycle

Assessment of the implantation of human resources reform

Reviewed and examined the scale of assessment system

Follow-up on the reform of pattern of conferences

Reform of the administrative tribunal

Some aspects of the key peacekeeping mission, in particular the budget

Mediation in case of conflicting situations within groups or countries

October 1998-September 2002: Moroccan delegate to the Third Committee of the General Assembly

Monitored and participated in negotiation of a plan of action initiated by the Third Committee

Dealt with many social and humanitarian issues: proposed, amended and negotiated several resolutions

Prepared the Moroccan statements on social development, human rights, rights of the child and the advancement of women

United Nations system

Vice-Chair of the preparatory committee for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

Vice-Chair of ad hoc committee of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (Beijing+5)

Chair of the working group in charge of finalizing chapters on Africa, international cooperation and globalization of the Action Plan of the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen+5)

Chaired like-minded groups dealing with issues not coordinated by the Group of 77

Vice-Chair of the preparatory committee on the Second World Assembly on Ageing

Chaired working group in charge of the political declaration of the Assembly

Vice-Chair of the special committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing held in Madrid

Participation in seminars/training organized by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), in partnership with some other institutions

Structure, drafting and adopting of the United Nations resolution

Public communication/interviews

Global issues and challenges facing the United Nations: legal, humanitarian, and political perspectives (June 2004; organized by Columbia University Law School and UNITAR)

Member of panel on results-based budgeting, organized by the United Nations in partnership with the Australian and Switzerland embassies, Princeton, New Jersey

1997-1998: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

Senior Administrator in charge of the functioning of the under-secretariat dealing with the Moroccan community residing abroad

Managed administrative and budgetary functions

1995-1997: Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Administrator of Human Resources, Budgeting and Equipment

Managed and planned the department's budget

Supervised and coordinated human resources tasks

Taught management courses at private universities

1993-1995: Association for a Global Peace Conference (Tennessee, United States)

Management consultant and planner

Contributed to a peace proposal submitted to influential members of the United States Congress

Taught principles of management at CPC College, Illinois, United States

1985-1987: Ministry of Education
Administrator, Division of Legal Affairs and Research:

Proposed new policy projects and submitted amendments to existing policies

Prepared protocols for the international cooperation in teaching

Planned and organized conferences and seminars on reform of government contracting

1982-1985: Ministry of Public Works
Administrator, Head of Management Department:

Coordinated internal and external administration activities

Created project implementation and monitoring procedures and rules

Member of technical committee in charge of implementing and evaluating the reform of the external services of the Ministry

Created a directory of rules and regulations of the government contracting and accounting

1981-1982: Ministry of Cooperation

Adviser to the Minister

Managed International Cooperation and Public Relations

1978-1981: Ministry of Transportation
Head of Public Transportation Department:

Acted several times as the interim Director

Managed feasibility studies, authorization and licensing, planning and scheduling of public transportation

Created the first directory of ground public transportation in Morocco

Studied, analysed and prepared proposals for international ground transportation

Participated in negotiating international ground transportation agreement with some EU countries

Created directory of The National Commission jurisprudence on public transportation

1977-1978: Ministry of Education
Coordinate Office of the General Secretary

Studied and analysed confidential reports addressed to the Minister by general inspectors

Resolved problems relating to education

Supervised and monitored implementation of new laws governing public contracting

Research and publications

Co-author of the women's chapter, a worldwide project on women and politics funded by UNESCO and the Ford Foundation and published by Yale University Press, United States

Author of application of marketing approach to family planning in Morocco

Published several articles, inter alia: motivation, management by objectives; strategic planning applied to public policies; Arab women in development: case of the Moroccan women

Seminars and conferences

A panel member on ethics and public service (Rabat)

A panel member on internalizing norms of management projects

Seminar on the European Community's affairs (Paris-Strasbourg-France)

The role of the Maghreb women's NGOs in strengthening relationships among the Maghreb countries and fostering implementation of the signed agreements and conventions (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

Designed workshops for projects organized by the IDNS/Maghreb

Communication workshops, networking activities and growth strategy for women's enterprises (Rabat)

Empowerment of women's leadership (San Francisco)

Negotiation techniques for international development

Colloquium on international trade

Speaker

Importance of NGOs and civil society involvement in public affairs (New Jersey)

Microcredit as tool to develop small business (Morocco)

Family status in Morocco, Copenhagen (Denmark)

Social development, including grass-roots social groups (Morocco)

Rights of the child in an Islamic society (Europe)

Fund-raising goals and techniques; case of St. Jude Hospital Department of Development

Women and politics in Muslim countries: case of Morocco (Denmark)

Women's civil rights according to the Muslim religion (Europe)

Arab women and development: case of Morocco (United States of America)

Memberships

Co-founder of the League of Executive Women in Public and Semi-Public Sectors (Rabat)

Co-founder of the Association of Women Enterprise (Casablanca)

Alumni Association of the American Universities (United States-Morocco)

Alumni Association of Higher Institute of Management and Administration (Casablanca)

Volunteer work

Organized workshops fund-raising for the Maghreb Heads of NGOs

Created cooperative and workshops for young professionals

International volunteer for foreign families with children at St. Jude Hospital, United States

Counselled rural women on health care and family planning (Morocco)

Presented lectures on the role of women in social and economic development (Morocco)

Organized workshops for African businesses (Casablanca)

Organized weaving and embroidery projects generating incomes for poor women (Morocco)

Interviews

Moroccan radio station, Algerian and Libyan Arab Jamahiriya radio stations and television, Copenhagen newspapers and television, French media, United Nations Radio

Travel

Visited many cities and villages in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East as a speaker, panellist or member of the Moroccan delegation

Renata Archini (Italy)

[Original: English]

Professional experience

Ms. Archini has a long-standing experience with the functioning of international organizations — in particular the United Nations — especially with administrative/personnel/budgetary issues.

2005-present: Ms. Archini is currently holding the position of Ministerial Adviser at the General Directorate for Political and Multilateral Affairs, dealing with administrative and legal aspects of the financing of United Nations activities, as well as ensuring liaison with the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights, whose mission consists of the implementation of the recommendations of treaty bodies at the national level.

2001-2005: Ms. Archini served at the Italian Embassy in Washington, with inspection and oversight functions for the management of Italian Consular offices in the United States (11 offices) and Canada (4 offices). She performed field inspections, recommending rationalization measures and simplified procedures wherever possible, in particular encouraging sharing of services in order to save resources.

1997-2001: Counsellor for Administrative Affairs at the Italian Mission to the United Nations, dealing primarily with financial and budgetary issues (peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base).

1997-2000: Delegate to the Fifth Committee.

1998-2000: Delegate to the Committee for Programme and Coordination, later becoming Vice-Chairman. Participant in the annual meetings of the Geneva Group, in both Geneva and New York.

1994-1996: Alternate Representative to the Fifth Committee.

1993: Assigned to the General Directorate for Migration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the position of Head of the Office providing financing to Italian Consulates around the world for assistance to Italian citizens abroad.

1990-1993: Counsellor for Administrative and Consular Affairs at the Italian Embassy in Moscow, with competence also over Belarus and Ukraine, performing mainly consular functions.

1982-1989: Administrative Chief at the Italian Mission to the United Nations in New York, dealing in particular with the administration of the Italian helicopter contingent (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) and personnel issues, mainly the geographic representation of Italian nationals in the United Nations system.

1985-1990: Delegate to the Fifth Committee.

1985-1989: Member of the Committee on Conferences.

1980-1982: Responsible for the Budget Office at the General Directorate for Personnel and Administrative issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dealing with the preparation of annual budget as well as the management of the revolving fund for extraordinary expenditures.

Previous professional experience

Ms. Archini began her career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1968 as a Foreign Languages Expert. From 1970-1978 she set up the Ministry's Translation and Interpretation Section, which under her leadership became a permanent Translation and Interpretation Service for Government members and a Centre for International Conferences.

Member of the Italian delegation to the Preliminary Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), in Helsinki (1972-1975), with the task of facilitating the inclusion of Italian as one of the Conference's official languages, she subsequently participated in the CSCE Review Conference in Belgrade in 1977.

In 1994/1996 she was appointed to the National Commission for Equal Opportunities at the Ministry of Labour, reviewing projects to be financed, and subsequently she was nominated President of the Committee for Equal Opportunities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Education

Degree in Modern Languages and Literature, *magna cum laude*, from the University of Rome (1967)

Degree in Political Sciences in Eastern European Countries, Naples Institute for Oriental Studies (1975)

Diploma from the School of Philosophy of Karlova University, Prague (1964)

Languages

French, Russian and English. Knowledge of Czech and Spanish.

Ms. Archini has translated literary works from Russian and Czech for Italian publishing houses; she is also a member of the Italian Society of Authors and Publishers.

She is married to Bruno De Giovanni.

Vladimir Alekseevitch Iosifov (Russian Federation)

[Original: English]

Date and place of birth: 17 September 1948, Moscow

Nationality: Russian Federation

Marital status: Married with two sons

Education

1966-1971	Master of International Relations from Moscow State Institute (University) of International Relations

Professional experience

1971	Joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
1971-1975	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Embassy in London
1975-1981	Third, Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
1981-1987	Political Affairs Officer, Political and Security Council Affairs Department, United Nations Secretariat
1987-1993	Counsellor, Department for Security Affairs and Disarmament, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Delegation of the Russian Federation to the Conference of Disarmament (Geneva)
1993-1997	Head of Conference Services, Acting Director of Administration, Provisional Technical Secretariat for the Organization on the Prohibitions of Chemical Weapons, The Hague (The Netherlands)
1997-2001	Principal Counsellor, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Responsible for the designing and implementation of the strategy and policies concerning reforms, administrative affairs, human resources, budgetary and financial issues at the United Nations, its agencies and other international organizations
2001-2006	Senior Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations Representative to the United Nations General Assembly, Fifth Committee Representative to the Committee on Programme and Coordination Representative to the Committee on Conferences Questions of the International Civil Services Commission Committee on Contributions, Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

2006-present	Deputy Director, Department of the International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Responsible for designing and implementation of the strategy and policies concerning reforms, administrative affairs, human resources, budgetary and financial issues at the United Nations, its agencies and other international organizations

Other activities

2000-2001, 2006-present	Member of the Advisory Group on Administrative and Budgetary Matters of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
2000-present	Member of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
2006-present	Member of the Budget Committee of the Council of Europe, Member of the Coordinating Committee on Remuneration (Council of Europe, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Western European Union, European Space Agency, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts)
2006-present	Member of the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Languages: Russian (mother tongue), English (fluent), Italian (basic)

Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina)

[Original: Spanish]

First Secretary Alejandro Torres Lépori has been a member of the Foreign Service of the Argentine Republic since 1999.

In 2004 he was posted to the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, and since the fifty-ninth session has served as the representative of Argentina on the Fifth Committee, which has responsibility for United Nations administrative and budgetary questions. At the sixty-second session he was elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. Torres Lépori has extensive technical expertise in United Nations administrative and budgetary questions. He has successfully coordinated negotiations on a number of Fifth Committee resolutions in virtually every area within its purview. At the sixty-second session he coordinated negotiations on the programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2008-2009. He has also coordinated a large number of resolutions on other items, including administration of justice, pattern of conferences, and revised estimates for special political missions. He has also represented the Group of 77 and China in negotiations on other Fifth Committee items, in particular items relating to human resources management.

In addition, from 2000 to 2003 he represented Argentina on the Committee for Programme and Coordination, serving as rapporteur at its forty-second session, in 2002. He has also represented Argentina on the Committee on Conferences, and was elected Vice-Chairman in 2008.

Since 2005 he has been responsible for various issues before the United Nations Security Council, in particular the question of Haiti. In 2005 and 2006, when Argentina was a member of the Council, he introduced and negotiated several draft resolutions and draft presidential statements on Haiti.

He also took part in the expert meetings on the scale of assessments of the Organization of American States (OAS) held in Washington, D.C., in 2007.

Prior to his appointment to the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, Mr. Torres Lépori served in the Department of International Organizations and in the Office of Latin American Economic Integration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship in Buenos Aires. He has also represented Argentina at meetings of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and OAS.

Before joining the Foreign Service, Mr. Torres Lépori worked as a journalist and academic, and collaborated on projects at the Centre for Legal and Social Studies (CELS). He has written several articles on relations between MERCOSUR and the European Union, on the International Criminal Court, and on the Argentine Constitution.

Mr. Torres Lépori speaks Spanish, English and French, and has some knowledge of Portuguese and Italian. He holds an undergraduate degree in political science and law from the University of Buenos Aires and a postgraduate degree in international relations from the Institute for Political Studies in Paris.

Susan M. McLurg (United States of America)

[Original: English]

Current professional experience

United States Department of State, United States Mission to the United Nations

Member of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (2000-present)

Minister Counsellor for budgetary, financial, administrative, personnel/common system and reform issues for the United Nations and New York-based United Nations programmes and funds (1999-2004)

Deputy Counsellor/Adviser for budgetary, financial, administrative and personnel/common system issues for the United Nations and New York-based United Nations programmes and funds (1983-1999)

Delegate to the Fifth Committee (1983-2003)

Delegate to the Committee for Programme and Coordination (1983-1990 and 1994-1999)

Member of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Committee (1992-2003)

Vice-Chairman, Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (1996-1999)

Delegate to the Committee on Conferences (1983-1989)

Delegate to the United Nations Children's Fund (1986-1993)

Delegate to the United Nations Development Programme (1991-1992)

Delegate to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for South Africa (1985-1986)

Previous professional experience

Project Director for employment and training programme for minorities in New York City sponsored by the Sheet Metal Workers' Union

Project Monitor for employment and training programmes funded by the United States Department of Labor

Education

Bachelor of Arts degree from Rutgers College, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 1976

Alexander Petriashvili (Georgia)

[Original: English]

Education

1987-1992	BA in economic and social geography, Tbilisi State University, Georgia
2000	NATO Defense College, Rome Researching topic related to United Nations reform, providing new ideas and prospects for modernization of existing United Nations administrative and budgetary offices, visiting United Nations Headquarters and meeting with respective United Nations officials

Professional experience

October 2004-present **Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Georgia to Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**

Improving economic and political ties between Turkmenistan and Georgia, as well as with Afghanistan

Actively participating in multilateral and bilateral consultations on the diversification of Turkmen energy recourses' transit routes, realization of the East-West Energy and Transport Corridor projects

Promoting the development of economic ties between Georgia and Turkmenistan, discussing and elaborating with Turkmen authorities new prospects with aim of increased trade turnover

Coordination of the process of covering State debt to Turkmenistan for consumed gas supplies, reaching agreement on yearly programmes of providing services and goods by Georgian economic agents in the frame of existing debt, negotiations on the unresolved issues related to the remaining amounts of debt

Initiating bilateral and trilateral projects in the process of reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Afghan economy — active consultations with the Afghan Government, United Nations offices and foreign missions in Kabul on allocation of additional funds for humanitarian, educational and energy needs of the Afghan people

Keynote speaker at the international donor conference for Afghanistan in London (2006); panellist for the annual International Oil and Gas Conference in Turkmenistan

September 2002-September 2004 — **Senior Economic Counsellor, Embassy of Georgia to the United States of America, Mexico and Canada**

Area of responsibilities on a bilateral basis: cooperation with relevant United States Government agencies (Department of Treasury, State Department, Office of the Coordinator for assistance to the South Caucasus and Central Asian States, Department of Energy, Department of Defense, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), etc.), in particular, negotiating the parameters of budget for Georgia on financial and technical assistance for new fiscal year, and coordinating the process of ongoing projects' realization, including provision of direct financial injections for Georgia's budgetary needs

Elaborating new assistance programmes through USAID

Working out short- and long-term strategies for energy cooperation with the Department of Energy

Negotiations on inclusion of Georgia in the Millennium Challenge Account project, defining the areas of cooperation in the frame of the Account in consultations with the relevant authorities; participation in the process of selection of appropriate contractors

Developing new investment projects with the United States private sector

On a multilateral basis: consultations with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on evaluation of realization of the national budget, participation in the process of elaboration of new parameters for upcoming fiscal years

Arranging of and participating in the high-level negotiations on restructuring the foreign debt in accordance with Paris Club agreed conditions

Facilitating more active participation of the International Finance Corporation in the Georgian private sector

May 2001-September 2002 — **Senior Counsellor, Embassy of Georgia to Austria, Permanent Mission of Georgia to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the International Organizations in Vienna, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), etc.**

Responsible for financial, economic and political-military issues: defining short- and long-term financial and technical needs for cleaning up the territory of Georgia from radioactive, chemical etc. wastes, working out the

yearly budget provided by IAEA for Georgia, participating in different United Nations forums in relation to approval of the yearly budget to the Member States

Participating in negotiations on allocation of funds for the OSCE border-monitoring missions to Georgia; provision of international financial assistance to the voluntary fund created for the withdrawal of foreign troops from the territory of Georgia

August 1998-May 2001 — **Deputy-Director of the Politico-Military Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia**

Responsible for: elaboration of annual budget provided by NATO for the Partnership for Peace programmes in Georgia; consultations with NATO international staff and relevant agencies in the frame of the Partnership for Peace State Commission led by the Minister for Foreign Affairs; consolidation of foreign assistance and allocating it for strengthening Georgia's defence capabilities

May-August 1998 — **Head of Bilateral Relations Division, Politico-Military Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia**

Personal involvement in preparation of agreements for foreign assistance by donor States and partners

May 1995-May 1988 — **State Adviser, Foreign Policy Analysis Service, State Chancellery, Staff of the President of Georgia**

Analysis of the trends and developments on global financial and energy markets in order to adjust the country's fiscal policy

January 1994-May 1995 — **Senior Specialist, Foreign Relations Division, State Logistic Service, Staff of the Head of State**

Audit and supervision of accounting and fiscal management in relation with budgetary bodies of the Government

Languages — Georgian (native), English (fluent), Russian (fluent), Italian (fair)

Marital status — Married, has two daughters and a son